

TODAY'S PRICES

Mexican bank notes (1000, 500, 200, 100, 50, 20, 10, 5, 2, 1, 50c, 25c, 10c, 5c, 2c, 1c) - 1000 - 1000, 500 - 500, 200 - 200, 100 - 100, 50 - 50, 20 - 20, 10 - 10, 5 - 5, 2 - 2, 1 - 1, 50c - 50c, 25c - 25c, 10c - 10c, 5c - 5c, 2c - 2c, 1c - 1c. (All prices subject to change without notice.)

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EL PASO, TEXAS, THURSDAY EVENING, APRIL 6, 1916.

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16 PAGES TODAY.

HOME EDITION

WEATHER FORECAST:
El Paso and West Texas, partly cloudy;
New Mexico, generally fair, cooler;
Arizona, fair.

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HUGE BELL IS BEFORE HOUSE
Greatest Fortification Bill Ever Reported Is Now Up For Discussion.
MUNITION SUPPLY IS PROVIDED FOR Sixteen-Inch Rifles Will Be Mounted at the Principal Harbors of Nation.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 6.—The third great element of the national preparedness program was today brought into the house. It is the largest fortification bill ever reported, and the first of four annual measures under which it is proposed to spend approximately \$100,000,000 for increasing and modernizing the coast defenses, already officially declared to be superior to any in the world, and to supply an ample store of reserve ammunition for guns.

Included in the bill are provisions for mounting 16-inch direct fire rifles to guard New York, Boston, San Francisco and other great cities from long range naval bombardment. Provision is also made for mounting 12-inch rifles now in reserve so they will have a range of more than 20,000 yards, or 15 sea miles. No ship could exist within that distance, according to naval calculations.

Guns on Railroad Cars.
The plan will add 16-inch mortar batteries to the present 12-inch emplacements located on the increased armor protection of modern battleships. In addition, it provides for 16-inch mortar batteries and 12-inch guns on railroad cars to defend points not protected by established forts. In approving the bill, the committee accepted without alteration the provisions of the war department and the officers who have studied the subject of coast defense for years. The bill carries appropriations of \$25,000,000 and additional authorizations to reach \$35,000,000.

It Is General's Bill.
It is one of the bills mapped out by former secretary of war Garrison to cover a four-year program of expenditures totaling \$400,000,000 and the construction of coast defenses and reserve material. The Panama canal defense will add \$15,000,000 to the total, reaching a grand total of \$500,000,000.

Heavy Ammunition Reserve.
As to reserve ammunition the report says: "A review of the subject in the light of the European war caused the board to very greatly increase the amount of such reserve ammunition thought to be requisite, and it has recommended this year an estimate of \$2,000,000 with a contract authority of \$2,500,000 to be expended toward securing a new reserve. The committee has allowed in its authority, and the bill submitted, making an appropriation in effect of \$5,000,000 of this purpose, as against previous annual appropriations of \$2,000,000."

Volunteer Plan in Jeopardy.
The fight over the federal volunteer plan of the army, reorganization bill was drawing to a close when the senate resumed work on the measure today with advocates of the provision trying hard to save it and opponents seeking to eliminate it.

154 SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN TEXAS HAVE TEACHERS' HOMES
Austin, Tex., April 6.—Statistics compiled in the state department of education disclose that 154 school districts in Texas are now providing homes for teachers and of this number 125 are for white and four for negro teachers.

The War At a Glance

DESPERATE all night struggle around Verdun resulted in substantial gains for the French north of Avocourt, west of the Meuse, according to today's Paris bulletin, while east of that stream German attacks on French positions were repulsed. At one point along the Avocourt-Bethincourt line, however, it is alleged the Germans succeeded in penetrating French positions.

The French ministry of marine announces the sinking of a German submarine by a squadron of French and British warships. The submarine's crew was captured.

The British steamer Zent has been torpedoed without warning, according to a Queenstown dispatch, already officially declared to be superior to any in the world, and to supply an ample store of reserve ammunition for guns.

Included in the bill are provisions for mounting 16-inch direct fire rifles to guard New York, Boston, San Francisco and other great cities from long range naval bombardment. Provision is also made for mounting 12-inch rifles now in reserve so they will have a range of more than 20,000 yards, or 15 sea miles. No ship could exist within that distance, according to naval calculations.

"War, Not Piracy," Says Schiller Of Exploit; "We Toasted Kaiser"
New York, April 6.—The exploit of Clarence Hudson, alias Ernest Schiller, in holding up, unaided, the British steamer Matoppe, on the high seas, was not piracy, Hudson contended today in a charge of piracy at a hearing here today, but was an act of war which was justified in the eyes of the captain and the chief officer, who he joined him in a toast to the emperor of Germany.

Hudson began today a fight to avoid being removed to Wilmington, Delaware, for trial in the federal court there on a charge of piracy. He was requested by the United States attorney general. His counsel demanded a full hearing and United States commissioner Hudson held him in \$25,000 bail for examination Saturday. Unable to furnish the bond, Hudson went to the Tombs.

BLOCKADE RUNNING SHIP WITH CARGO IS SEIZED
London, Eng., April 6.—The Brazilian steamer, *Saldanha de Gama*, which sailed from Para, Brazil, February 6, for New York with a cargo of 120 tons of raw rubber, has been seized off the Orkney Islands by a British patrol boat. The ship and her cargo have been placed in the prize court.

This is believed to be a deliberate case of attempted blockade running, the officials here contending that a steamer from Para for New York could never have got so far off her course. This is the first seizure made by the admiralty of a complete cargo of rubber.

U. S. ATTACHES AGREE TORPEDO WRECKED SHIP
Washington, D. C., April 6.—Reports of the American naval attaché at London, on his investigation of the destruction of the liner *Russet* received today at the state department agree with the report of the attaché at Paris, which says the ship was destroyed by a torpedo.

The reports told of passengers seeking the path of the torpedo as it appeared in the water, and of the finding of pieces of torpedo on the wrecked ship afterward. They agreed the ship was unarmed and received no warning.

RUSSIA BUYS \$22,000,000 WAR MUNITIONS OF JAPANESE
Tokio, Japan, April 6.—Russia has placed in Japan another huge war order which is said to reach \$22,000,000. The munitions will be turned out by government arsenals and the first deliveries will begin in 1917.

U. S. INQUIRES OF FRANCE REGARDING VULCAN'S GUNS
Washington, D. C., April 6.—France has been asked to give assurances that the rapid fire guns on the liner *Vulcan* at New York will be used for defensive purposes only. If the United States clears the ship.

PROPOSES \$50,000,000 FOR CONTROL OF RIVER FLOODS
Washington, D. C., April 6.—The new house flood control committee has proposed an expenditure of \$50,000,000 for the Mississippi and \$5,000,000 for the Sacramento rivers. A vote on the bill is expected within the next few days.

BLOODY BATTLE PRECEDES CAPTURE

Germans Announce Seizure; French Admit Foe Gained Footing In Town.

FRENCH CAPTURE "SQUARE WOODS"

Violent Bombardment Conducted Between Avocourt And Bethincourt.

BERLIN, GERMANY, April 6.—German troops have stormed the village of Avocourt, on the Avocourt-Bethincourt front, northwest of Verdun, the war office announced today.

PARIS, FRANCE, April 6.—The war office announced this afternoon capture by the French of a large portion of the position north of Avocourt, known as Bois Carré, or "square woods." This ground was captured in the course of fighting which went on all Wednesday afternoon and night in the Verdun region, west of the Meuse on the Avocourt-Bethincourt line.

At one point along the Avocourt-Bethincourt line Germans succeeded in penetrating French positions.

Two attacks were made by German troops against French positions north of Chaillette woods, but they were without result.

French Gain In Arzonne Wood.
The text of the communication follows: "In the Arzonne a surprise attack delivered by us today near the highway of St. Hubert resulted in perceptible losses to our adversaries."

"In the region of Verdun the enemy gave evidence of great activity during the evening hours, as the night progressed there took place a series of attacks in the region between Avocourt and Bethincourt. This was followed by a series of attacks in which large numbers of men took part against the two principal salients of this front. At the Avocourt-Bethincourt line the village of Bethincourt was attacked by our fire."

Germans Gain Haucourt.
"The enemy delivered a serious attack on the center against the village of Haucourt. In spite of repeated checks and bloody sacrifices they were successful in getting a footing during the night in this village. We now hold the village."

"On our side, after a short preparatory artillery raid, we delivered a surprise attack. During this operation which was successful, we occupied a large portion of the territory known as 'Le Bois Carré' and took 500 prisoners."

"East of the Meuse two enemy attacks north of the Chaillette wood resulted only serious losses to the Germans."

"There is nothing to report from the remainder of the front."

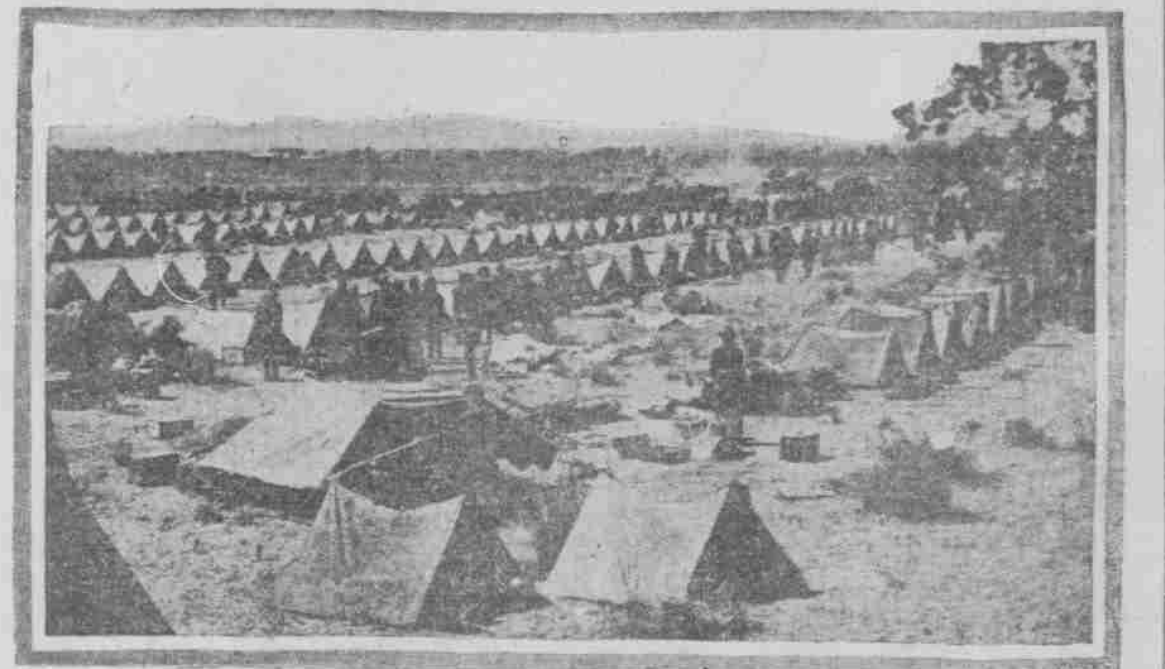
British Exploit Mines.
London, Eng., April 6.—The British official statement on the campaign in the west, issued Wednesday night follows: "Last night we exploded mines successfully near Hildesheim and damaged a house and a railway station. Today we bombarded hostile works near Bois Grenier with good effect."

"About 800 tons of artillery of both sides was very active. North of the Ypres-St. Julien road our heavy artillery carried out a successful bombardment, destroying a number of enemy trenches and causing numerous explosions."

DUTCH ARE APPREHENSIVE; DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING
London, Eng., April 6.—According to special dispatches from The Hague printed in this morning's newspapers today, the opening of the second chamber of the Dutch parliament has not done all that it was expected to do in relieving the public feeling of uneasiness over the military measures in Holland.

The meeting of the chamber was private and the public and newspaper correspondents were excluded. These precautions and the great secrecy observed, according to the dispatches, only made the Dutch public more nervous and apprehensive. This was accentuated by the premier's admission that recent measures taken by the government were necessary facts which it was not in the national interest to disclose.

GEN. PERSHING'S FIRST BASE CAMP



INFANTRY CAMP AT COLONIA DUBLAN

ASSERTS CONSUL ADDED IN PLOT
WASHINGTON, D. C., April 6.—The government's investigation of the alleged connection of Carl A. Luderitz, German consul at Baltimore, with the issue of an American passport to Horst Von Der Goltz, a confessed German spy, under the name of Bridgman Taylor, has reached a point where the next step is to lay the facts before a federal grand jury.

The story told to department of justice agents by Von Der Goltz at New York is to be made the basis of grand jury action. In his statement Von Der Goltz is quoted as saying he went to Baltimore with a letter from Capt. Von Pappe, the former German military attaché here, requesting the consul to aid him in his mission.

Von Der Goltz has told the agents he presented the letter and discussed with Luderitz plans for obtaining fraudulently an American passport. Von Der Goltz's story, it is said, has been corroborated by the prisoner, Tucker, arrested three weeks ago at El Paso and now held at Ellis Island, New York. Tucker it is asserted, was familiar with Von Der Goltz's plans to obtain an American passport and has corroborated the story in its essentials.

BANK BANDITS STEAL \$5,000
Chenango, Pa., April 6.—Two men robbed the First National bank of Houston, Pennsylvania, near here, soon after noon today of \$5,000 and escaped in a taxicab.

Joseph K. McNitt, cashier of the bank, was alone at his window when an automobile drove up in front of the building. A man entered carrying in one hand a piece of paper about the size of a check and laid it on the counter in front of the cashier. On the paper was written, "Make a move and you will be shot." McNitt looked up to find himself facing an automatic pistol.

McNitt was made to lie on the floor and one of the robbers guarded him while the other went through the vault.

FERGUSON URGES TEXANS TO HELP "TAG DAY" WORK
Austin, Texas, April 6.—Governor Ferguson today issued a proclamation appealing to the people of Texas to respond liberally to "tag day" on April 8, and cooperate with the National revolution, which is cooperating with the commission for the relief of Belgium, on that day. It is proposed to raise funds to buy clothing for the 2,000,000 destitute in the war zones of Belgium and northern France.

WOULD PROBE "LOBBY" OF MUNITION MAKERS
Washington, D. C., April 6.—Investigation of lobbying activities of agents of the Du Pont Powder companies and of present and former agents of the American Cyanide company, their subsidiary concerns and their associate corporations in connection with the effort to bring about the erection of a nitrate plant at the Muscle Shoals site on the Tennessee river, was proposed to the judiciary committee to hear witnesses and report to congress.

BERNSTORFF INQUIRES ABOUT STEAMER APPARATUS
Washington, D. C., April 6.—Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, today called at the state department in connection with his inquiries of minor importance relating to the prize ship *Appam*. He conferred briefly with counselor Poik.

CONFEDERATE PENSIONERS TO GET \$16 FOR QUARTER
Austin, Tex., April 6.—Confederate pensioners will receive an increase of \$1 for the pension quarter commencing March 1, according to announcement made by pension commissioner James T. Hays. This increase makes the amount to be received by the pensioners \$16, which is the largest amount paid for any quarter since March, 1915, when the total reached \$25.

THE DAY IN CONGRESS.
Senate.
Resumed discussion of army reorganization bill.
House.
Met and passed Hiram Bland inquiry resolution before judiciary subcommittee.
Debate continued on rivers and harbors appropriation bill.

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Funston Believes Vanguard Is At Saleto; Troops Out Of Touch With Base.

ARMY CAN'T USE WIRE FOR CODE
The Carranza Officials Have Asked When Troops Are To Be Withdrawn.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 6.—Secretary of state Lansing today flatly denied that there was any ground whatever for the reports that withdrawal of American troops from Mexico was being contemplated.

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, April 6.—The most advanced cavalry detachments engaged in capturing down Villa were beyond communication today and at Gen. Funston's headquarters it was believed they already were as far south as Saleto, whence trails extend toward Parral. Only unofficial and conflicting reports as to Villa's whereabouts have been received here, but Gen. Funston and his staff officers place most credence in the report that he was in the vicinity of Salinas Tuesday and traveling south or southeast, which would put American troops hard on his trail.

From Salinas the American forces could send a courier to Chihuahua with reports for transmission by the regular telegraph lines, but the local authorities in Mexico have persisted in their refusal to accept the coded messages from officers of the punitive expedition.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 6.—Attention of administration officials was focused today on the diplomatic aspects of the American expedition into Mexico. News regarding military developments was lacking.

In some quarters there was a strong inclination to connect the de facto government with Carranza, but the authorities in Mexico have persisted in their refusal to accept the coded messages from officers of the punitive expedition.

Will Troops Be Withdrawn.
It is understood that Carranza officials on the border have made informal inquiries as to how much longer the expedition will remain in Mexico and how far south it will penetrate.

While legal cases the American soldiers leave Mexican soil.

Gen. Funston today asked the war department to send the recruits, listed under the recent authorization of \$5,000,000 for additional troops, to Texas, for distribution among the border patrol regiments. The recruits are being assembled and drilled at recruits' schools at Jackson, Barrocas, Mo., Columbus, Barracks, Ohio, Fort Logan, Colo., and Fort Alvarado, Calif. They will not be sent across the border, but will fill up regiments of the border guard.

At Gen. Funston's request a battery of the Fourth Field artillery which had been ordered from Brownsville to the Panama canal zone will remain on the border, in view of Mexican conditions.

Railroad Question Unsettled.
Dispatches reporting continuing negotiations with Gen. Carranza for use of the railways were received today from special agent John L. Rodgers at Queretaro.

They indicated the question was still unsettled, but officials regarded the situation as favorable. The exact questions under negotiation were not disclosed.

Secretary Lansing declined to say what progress had been made with Gen. Carranza. The last official announcement was of submission by Carranza of several modifications. These apparently still are before the state department. Elinor Arredondo, Gen. Carranza's ambassador here, has not conferred with secretary Lansing in more than a week.

In army quarters here the war department's authorization to Gen. Funston to add 100 motor trucks to the Columbus-Casas Grandes supply train is taken to mean that there is no immediate hope of obtaining the Mexico North Western railroad for the shipment of American army supplies.

With the addition of 100 new trucks about 200 trucks will be in use on the Columbus-Casas Grandes trail. The total number of trucks is 200.

(Continued on page 2, Col. 4.)

Best West of the Mississippi

Yuma, Arizona, April 1, 1916.
Editor El Paso Herald.
You may expect my dues for the best paper west of the Mississippi, when the same becomes due.
Yours very truly,
Joseph E. Edmonds.

Withdraw the Troops Now Will Be To Commit a Senseless Outrage